

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

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R 121614Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2714

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJ: FRANCO TO RETIRE, SISTER SAYS, BUT DOESN'T SAY WHEN

1. FRANCO'S SISTER, PILAR (67) HAS GIVEN TWO INTERVIEWS IN PAST WEEK, DISCUSSING HER BROTHER'S HEALTH, FAMILY HISTORY AND IDIOSYNCRACIES. FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, A SUMMARY FOLLOWS BELOW.

2. PILAR TOLD CORRESPONDENT OF "MUNDO DIARIO" IN BARCELONA AUG 3 THAT "MY BROTHER WILL RELINQUISH POWER, HE WILL DO IT, HE IS WAITING FOR AN APPROPRIATE MOMENT." IN A SEAPARATE INTERVIEW WITH CORRESPONDENT OF "YA" AUG 9, PILAR SAID SHE BELIEVED THAT FRANCO WILL WAKE UP ONE MORNING AND SAY, "I'M GOING TO LEAVE." AT SAME TIME, SHE SAID THAT ON OCCASION SHE TOLD FRANCO, "YOU SHOULD REST," HE HAS ALWAYS REPLIED, "WELL, I'M TIRED." PILAR SAID THAT THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN CLOSE TO FRANCO THROUGHOUT HIS TROUBLED LIFE WANT TO SEE HIM REST AND DO WHATHE FEELS LIKE DOING.

3. PILAR ALSO EXPRESSED HER PERSONAL AVERSION TO THE CONCEPT OF POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS. WHEN ASKED FOR HER OPINION OF PREMIER ARIAS, SHE SAID HE WAS A HARDWORKING AND INTELLIGENT MAN. WITH RESPECT TO JOSE SOLIS RUIZ, SHE SAID HE KNEW A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THE FALANGE AND THE MOVEMENT AND WAS "A GREAT SECURITY FOR MY BROTHER AND FOR ALL SPANIARDS."

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4. PILAR HERSELF HAS NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT HER KNOWLEDGE OF

FRANCO'S THINKING. SHE SAID HER BROTHER WAS A "CLOSED BOX",  
ADDING THAT SHE LEARNED OF HIS DECISION TO RESUME POWER IN  
SEPTEMBER 1974 FROM A TELECAST WHICH FRANCO ASKED TO HAVE  
SWITCHED ON FOLLOWING DINNER TOGETHER.  
STABLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RELIGIOUS LEADERS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
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